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American Fruits

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Vol. II

ROCHESTER, N. Y., NOVEMBER, 1904

No. 2

APPLE DAY AT FAIR.

Two Thousand Bushels Were Given Away
Under Direction of F. W. Taylor and Prof.
John T. Stinson--An Effective Advertisement--Great Exhibits
by New York and
Missouri.

JAMES HANDLY, ILLINOIS.

The success of Apple Day on October 4, 1904, at the World's Fair in St. Louis, was fully up to all that had been anticipated by the Apple Consumers League and others interested in the work.

Missouri led off with a magnificent gift of fruit and New York followed with extreme liberality. Generous gifts were also received from Canada and Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and many other states. It can be safely estimated that at least 700 barrels, or more than 2,000 bushels of apples, were freely given to the visitors on the occasion.

In order to have some system in distributing, those receiving the apples were required to form in lines and march in processions which were inclosed by ropes and as they left the building busy helpers standing at the doors passed apples on either side. There were two entrances and two exits for the procession and this facilitated the work, giving opportunity for speedy distribution.

The object of Apple Day was to cause the apple to be more thought of, more talked about and be pressed more into service for general use in families. All the apples given away were first class and it is to be hoped that the lesson will be learned that it is better and cheaper, besides more satisfactory, in every particular, to raise the best apples instead of the poorest.

Frederick W. Taylor, chief, and Prof. John T. Stinson, assistant, of the horticultural department at the exposition, deserve great credit for carrying out the plans that had been proposed for Apple Day.

An attractive feature for the occasion was the beautiful decorations. In the center of the palace of horticulture was a large circle made from the late fall flowers, ferns, palms and potted plants and they formed a base of decorations which led to a large American flag made entirely from gladiolas. The flowers for this flag were furnished by Arthur Cowee, of Berlin, N. Y., who is said to be the largest grower of gladiolas in the world. While the display of fruit from all the states in the horticultural building had always been kept in the most attractive order, it appeared that those having charge of such exhibits made extra exertions to have everything bright and shiny on Apple Day.

The exhibit of New York is under the supervision of Charles H. Vick and is most marvelous. It shows a display of more than four hundred varieties of apples and a vast variety of pears and 2,000 plates of grapes. On its tables there is an aggregate of 4,000 plates of fruit.

Missouri makes the largest display. It started with thirty carloads of fruit and it has taken twenty-five barrels of apples each week to keep up the standard of its tables. It has 2,200 jars of fruit and a great variety of pears as well as apples on exhibition. All other states, from Connecticut to California, and from Minnesota to Texas have very generous and attractive exhibits, showing the wonderful resources of the country.



JAMES HANDLY, ILLINOIS.
SEC'Y MISSISSIPPI VALLEY APPLE GROWERS ASS'N.

MILLIONAIRE BANANA GROWER.

Senor Jose J. Duenas, of San Juan Bautiste, Mexico, a millionaire planter, harvested 31,200 bunches of bananas from 57 acres, during the 12 months, equal to 547 bunches per acre. The cost of cultivation, harvesting and delivering was \$3,120. If the fruit sold for the price paid in Costa Rica for bananas, 31 cents a bunch, the profits on the year's yield from those 57 acres were \$6,552, or \$114.95 per acre. That equalled 210 per cent. on the cost of production, or 10 per cent. more than the profit on the crops of seven banana plantations in Costa Rica for the year ended June, 1903.

NURSERY OUTLOOK.

Spring Trade Promises to be Good--Stock Well Cleaned Up--Western Farmers Have Good Crops--Growing Tendency to Favor Spring Planting.

Shenandoah, Iowa., Oct. 10.—D. S. Lake: "It is a little early to tell definitely in regard to fall business, but we seem to have about all that we can attend to, and I think our fall business will be up to the average of the past three years. In regard to our spring trade, I see no reason why it should not be good. The western farmers have good crops, and prices promise to be good, and the spring demand for nursery stock should be large."

KALAMAZOO, MICH., Oct. 8.—Central Michigan Nursery: "We are more than pleased with our summer's business and while there seems to be a growing tendency among planters to favor spring planting, they are not overlooking the desirability of placing early orders, and this fact has increased the volume of business during the past few months. We can see no reason why spring trade should not be good and we are looking for it. While we are well supplied with the standard varieties of fruit trees and small fruit plants, having a goodly supply of Elberta, Kalamazoo and other leading varieties of peach trees to place in the winter storage, we confidently believe that the surplus will be exhausted long before the planting season, as there is a scarcity of peach trees in the nurseries, and while the demand is fully as good as in past years, unless something unforseen happens our trade for the year will run considerably heavier than a year ago."

DEMAND FOR JAPAN PLUMS.

VINCENNES, IND., Oct. 8.—W. C. Reed: "At present our orders aggregate more than at the same time last year and seem to be coming along very nicely. The demand for Japan plums is very heavy, and think the supply will be exhausted before spring is over. Demand for cherry, pear and small fruits is good. Apple in good demand except Ben Davis, which is a little slow. Owing to the light apple crop there are not many large commercial orchards being planted this fall. I anticipate a heavy spring trade and think all kinds of stock will be used up pretty close. We are having a nice trade on one-year cherry, of which we make somewhat of a specialty."

"White Oaks" is the appropriate name of the handsome residence of W. N. Scarff, New Carlisle, O

FROM WESTERN POINTS

ARKANSAS PEACH LANDS.

In Twenty-Seven Years There Have Been
But Two Crop Failures--Large Operations
by Southern Planting Association-5,000-Acre Orchard at Horatio.

R. H. CADWALLADER, KANSAS,

Your readers may be interested in my observations along horticultural lines for 1904. Missouri and Kansas have had a very unfavorable fruit season this year. Extreme wet during April, May, and June cut off the profits. To begin with, a warm spell in February swelled the peach blossom buds and a succeeding cold spell killed them. In the spring, cold, bleak winds at blossoming times fixed the apples till about a tenth of the crop is the rule. Cherries were a good crop, but plums did little. Strawberries that were marketed before the rains set in brought the growers some good profits, but those that ripened during the rainy season were just about a "stand off." I think the average price on strawberries in Southwest Missouri, which is our best strawberry district, was about a dollar a crate.

Hundreds of acres of strawberry fields in that district have been plowed up, and much more left without cultivation, which means a reduction in output and better prices next year.

As for peaches, they were a failure all over Missouri, Kansas, and Northwestern Arkansas, or practically so. It looks like it were impossible to grow peaches successfully, year by year, north of Fort Smith, Ark.

I was down in the real peach country of the section west of the Mississippi, in August, 40 to 60 miles north of Texarkana, in Arkansas. On the southernmost slope of the Ozark mountains, in Southwestern Arkansas, on the Kansas City Southern railroad, is the home of the peach. All the conditions are favorable there: soil, climate, and sun. Never did I taste such quality in a peach before. In a record of 27 years there are but two peach crop failures.

A corporation of northern men has established a 5,000-acre Elberta peach orchard at Horatio, a small town in the center of this fruit district. They are clearing the land of its timber of pine and oak, and planting these hills to Elbertas. Over 2,000 acres are already planted by these people, the Southern Orchard Planting Association, and I found their manager, Mr. E. M. Treakle, busy with 100 men and 100 mules, cultivating the young trees.

I was impressed with the fact that while we can grow small fruits anywhere, the man who wants to grow tree fruits should go where they grow best. For instance, Southwest Missouri and Northwest Arkansas produce great crops of fine apples and strawberries, while California produces the prunes, pears, grapes and citrus fruits. I was so well pleased with the system on which this Horatio orchard was conducted, that I intend going down, there again

next summer, while fruit gathering is in progress, to see how they handle peaches. I will take notes while there of points that appear of interest to fruit growers, and write up my visit for American Fruits.

MISSOURI NURSERY TRADE.

SARCOXIE, Mo., Oct. 10.—James B. Wild & Brothers: "Our peach trees are exceptionally fine, all in the large size. In apple, our two-year stock is above the average of past three-years, but yearlings are small; though not tall, they are well supplied with fine root formation. We look for a good trade, but we are surprised to find prices running low, notwithstanding that stock has not been up to the average, and stocks were very high the past season, and certainly a very light plant of apple could only be made this spring."

APPLE SEEDLINGS IN DEMAND.

TOPEKA, Kansas, Oct. 14.—L. R. Taylor & Sons: "Fall business is very good, much better than we had expected. However, owing to the flood of 1903, the amount of stock to come on the market this fall and next spring at this point will not be nearly as large as usual; we feel safe in saying not more than 50 per cent.

"Plum are scarce and high in price. The demand for peach is heavy, and while the supply is pretty plentiful, yet prices have stiffened and we look for further advance before spring. Apple and cherry are holding their own. Apple went a little slow at first, but trade on them is increasing, especially on early and northern sorts. The demand for apple seedlings has been unusually heavy for this early in the season; some growers reporting as being entirely sold out already. Prices are advancing and we look for the crop to be cleaned up."

NORTH TEXAS GROWERS.

The North Texas Fruit and Truck Growers' Association has been organized with the following officers: President, T. R. Swith, Blossom; vice-president, S. T. Venable, Denison; secretary-treasurer, Walter S. Lawson, Anona. Six associations, with an aggregate membership of 288 members, were represented as follows: Grayson County Truck Growers' Association, S. T. Venable, Denison,; Detroit Truck and Fruit Growers' Association, H. W. Grogan; Avery Truck and Fruit Growers' Association, J. T. Baldwin and T. H. Bolt; Bagwell Truck and Fruit Growers' Association, A. L. Janes and S. T. Moore; Blossom Truck and Fruit Growers' Association, T. R. Swift, J. H. Barnes, W. E. Moore, J. H. Carter, E. W. Williams; Anona Truck and Fruit Growers' Association, Walter S. Lawson.

FRUIT IN NEBRASKA.

Winter Apple Crop 20 Per Cent.--Merchants Must Rely Upon Michigan and New York --Orchards in Good Condition--Peaches Sold to Local Trade at High Prices.

E. F. STEPHENS, NEBRASKA.

Owing to the severe ice storm of April 29, 1903, most of the Nebraska orchards rested that year. That is, the crop was very light. Orchardists therefore expected a full crop during the year 1904.

The crop of early apples, of the character of the Duchess and Wealthy, was very good indeed. The apples were good size and quality and sold on a good market. The winter varieties, however, did not do nearly as well. Some attributed the loss of Nebraska apples to the wet weather at blooming period, early in the spring.

Others attributed a part of the loss to scab and codling moth. Very few of the orchardists of Nebraska make any effort to guard against codling moth and fungus diseases, and those who did spray did not succeed in accomplishing as much as they had hoped, for the reason that the frequent rains of May and June lessened the beneficial effect of spraying given.

We are estimating the apple crop of the state, including summer varieties at 40 per cent, winter varieties at 20 per cent. Summer apples, like Duchess and Wealthy, sold at \$2.00 per barrel.

The Winesap has not been doing well for recent years. Perhaps one of the causes is, it has suffered more from fungus diseases than some of the other varieties. This has been an off year for Janet. Jonathan gave perhaps 40 per cent. of a crop. This left our main dependency for winter apples resting on Ben Davis. The Ben Davis has not done nearly as well as usual. Jonathan have been selling at \$2.00 per barrel. Choice Winesap and Minkler are worth the same. Ben Davis have been selling and are now sold at \$1.80 to \$2.00 per barrel.

Owing to the very warm and moist fall, the temperature rose to 80 to 90 degrees in the shade, until the end of September. Orchardists feel that Nebraska winter varieties will not keep as well as usual.

Here, October 13th, we have not yet had any frost. Flowers are in full bloom. The weather is warm and wet.

We think that nearly all the apples in the state of Nebraska will be safely disposed of and marketed within sixty days, and after that time merchants will have to rely on Michigan or New York.

Early in the season barrels cost 35 cents at the factory, Missouri points. Later in the season, owing to the demand being less than anticipated, the price of barrels at the factory fell to 30½ cents per barrel. This also was influenced somewhat by the growing disposi-

tion of merchants to have apples shipped in bulk, for early trade, that is, for October and November business, saving in this way the cost of the barrel and freight on the weight of the barrel. The growing disposition of consumer to buy groceries and fruits from day to day is against the trade in barrels. Twenty years ago it was not unusual for a thrifty provider to purchase five or ten barrels of apples and store them in his own cellar. Housekeepers also would buy a wagonload of potatoes and store them away; also purchase sugar by the sack, and soap by the box. Now there is the growing disposition in many families to purchase supplies from day to day. This curtails the demand for apples in barrels, since day-to-day trade can be supplied from apples in bulk cars.

We have in mind a combination of merchants at Kearney who purchased and sold ten car lots of bulk apples last fall.

CONDITIONS OF ORCHARDS.

Orchards have made a very healthy growth during the past season and seem to be in better than average condition, and orchardists look forward to a very favorable season and for a fruit crop for 1905.

Peaches: This has been a peach year for Nebraska. Peach orchards 200 to 300 miles west of the Missouri river, and even north of the Platte, have surprised their owners by giving excellent crops of peaches.

One orchardist reports that his peaches paid him at the rate of \$800 per acre. It should be borne in mind, however, that orchardists, 200 to 300 miles west of the Missouri river sell almost entirely to local trade at high prices. It is not unusual for budded peaches to sell at \$1.50 to \$2.00 per bushel; very few sell for less than \$1.25 per bushel. Seedlings, on the other hand have been very abundant and in many neighborhoods have sold as low as 25 cents a bushel, and in some orchards hundreds of bushels have gone to waste.

The J. M. Russell Co., near Lincoln, have 145 acres of peach orchard now in nearly full bearing. This orchard has proven very profitable this season, and is a decided encouragement for the planting of large commercial peach orchards. In addition to shipping widely throughout Nebraska, and supplying the local trade, they were joined by other Lincoln growers and several cars were shipped to Iowa.

NURSERY CONDITIONS IN KANSAS.

OTTAWA, KAN., Oct. 10th.—A. Willis: "Our season has been quite unfavorable all through Central and Eastern Kansas. The spring was wet, and cold, and backward, and in a large part of this territory unusual floods destroyed nearly everything on the bottom lands. Perhaps there is less corn raised within fifty miles of this place than there has been since 1874. Some crops have been very good, but this has been a hard year as a whole. In this vicinity we had the highest water ever known. It destroyed a large amount of nursery stock in this city, which, together with

the unfavorable season, has left us with an especially light crop.

"We also had considerable stock growing in New York, and the severe winter and high waters have caused great loss there. Our retail trade at this time has been larger, I think, than any year in the past; but more of it is for spring delivery, so that our fall delivery is not quite up to what it has been some other years. In wholesale trade we think business has been very good considering our failure in crops. We have less wholesale trade this year than we had last, but the outlook seems quite favorable for wholesale trade, and we think by spring everything that we have to offer will be pretty well cleaned up."

NURSERY INTERESTS IN NEBRASKA.

CRETE, NEB., Oct. 14.—E. F. Stephens: "The nursery business has been rather better than usual the past season. With wheat bringing a good price and corn a higher price than usual, farmers feel able to make improvements.

"Apple orchards are coming into bearing far out in the western part of the state, and encouraging farmers to plant more freely. The fact that this has been a peach year for the state of Nebraska ought to encourage the planting of large orchards of peaches, and we expect a good trade in trees. People no longer plant groves, shelter belts, and windbreaks, as they used to do, because the average farmer dislikes to devote land worth \$40 to \$75 an acre to the production of a grove whose benefits are some years ahead. He prefers to put in winter wheat and get his returns within a year. The nurserymen who used to sell a good many millions of forest trees in a season, now sell less than one-twentieth of the number marketed then."

BOOMING MISSOURI FRUIT.

The Missouri State Horticultural Society has made 19 fruit shows, has taken 149 premiums, 73 medals and 74 diplomas, and has captured cash prizes amounting to \$1,700. It has won highest honors at Paris and is leading in the fruit exhibition at St. Louis.

For the last twenty-three years the growth of the society and the fruit industry of our state has been steady, regular and solid.

"In that time," says N. F. Murray, one of its most prominent life members, "the society by its officers and working members has visited five hundred towns of the state giving valuable lectures not only to the fruit growers but to all classes of our citizens in town, city and country, telling them how to care for their orchards and fruit gardens and how to adorn and beautify their homes by the art of horticulture.

"It has sent out upward of fifty thousand volumes of the state reports of the society of four hundred pages, the work of experienced fruit growers and second to none in the American Union. In addition to these reports much other printed matter has been sent out and many thousands of letters coming from our own and other states have been answered by the officers and members of the society."

SMALL FRUITS IN NEBRASKA.

The market for fruit grown in Western Nebraska is at this time local, and a large amount will be needed to supply the local markets, writes E. F. Stephens, of Crete. The soil, properly irrigated and suitably planted, is peculiarly adapted to the growing of small fruit for distant shipment. The strawberry is quite as productive in Western Nebraska as in the Hood River valley, Oregon, and a thousand miles nearer to market. The Kansas black raspberry does very well without winter protection. The red raspberries and the blackberries should receive winter protection by covering with earth, as in Michigan and Colorado. Our confidence in the future of this district is such that we are continuing to plant contract orchards. Fourteen thousand trees were planted this spring. Other orchards are contracted for next season, one in a very favorable location, a mile from Wyoming line.

Up to this time Nebraska has shipped in a great deal more fruit than it has shipped out. Our home market is capable of immense and rapid development. When we grow more fruit than the people can consume, we are fortunately located with leading trunk lines of railway, with a refrigerator car service already established, and a shorter haul than other commercial districts, which will give us better access to the markets of the country.

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EASTERN GROWERS AND DEALERS

A WARNING NOTE.

Large Commission Firm Reviews Season's
Peach Industry--Says Large Plantings
and Immature Methods Hurt the
Market--Plenty of Room for
Good Fruit.

CHARLES S. FUGAZZI, OHIO.

The annual crop of reports detailing a few and rare incidents of some growers in various sections of Georgia having made fabulous profits from their peach crops, is now going the rounds of various newspapers, some of which are fruit trade papers.

If they would stop and consider the damage done to the fruit industry it certainly would be stopped to a great extent. These reports, exaggerated to extremes in some cases, only tend to induce planting of trees by parties having very little or no experience in fruit culture and take very little pains to get posted as to the various details connected with the raising of crops. The natural consequences are that a larger quantity of poor fruit appears each year than the year before, and also a larger percentage of poorly packed fruits. This tends to hurt the market more than any other factors, and is to be deplored.

It is very evident to anyone conversant with the facts that there are now more trees set out in Georgia and other states nearby than will ever be taken care of properly, and still, readers of various papers will notice items showing an isolated case of some grower having made fabulous profits, and that large numbers of trees will be set out here and there the next planting season.

DRAWBACKS OF THE SEASON.

Anyone having had any experience in shipping peaches from North Georgia, Tennessee, and other sections, shipping at same time knows full well that very few of the growers have very little if anything to show for their labor, which was a hard task the past season as any grower can testify. The cost of getting the fruit from the trees to the car this season exceeded that of the previous season nearly five cents a crate, or an increase of nearly twenty per cent., and many a car did not pay the cost of crates, picking, packing, etc., and in a good, many cases receivers were lucky to get the freight charges, leaving the growers in such instances in debt for \$125 to \$150 on a car, which, to say the least, is very discouraging and decidedly unprofitable.

The railroads in the Southern states have land and industrial agents who issue broadcast literature showing the fabulous profits made by some grower whose case is exceptional, and then urge the planting of more trees, when the fact is clearly proven by this year's experience that they were not in a position to handle the crop in a proper manner, being short of necessary equipments. The number of trees in bearing this year was not one-half of the number already set out, and it

certainly looks as if it was time to stop urging the setting of more trees when there is more than enough out already.

The fruit trade papers would do well to get reports from the agricultural departments of Georgia, Texas, Missouri, Arkansas, Alabama, and Mississippi showing trees set out to date, the number in bearing this season, etc., which facts would certainly open the eyes of a good many probable planters and make them stop and reflect very seriously before taking a step that they will soon regret.

OVER-PRODUCTION FEARED.

It is certainly to the interest of the dealers as well as growers to do what they can to prevent over-productions, as there is very little compensation for the handling of the fruit when prices are as low as this year. If any have any doubts as to the low proceeds realized this year, they can easily be satisfied by corresponding with growers in North Georgia or East Tennessee, and they can then study out what is in store for the industry when the shipments will be three and four times as heavy as this year.

A commission merchant in Buffalo last December took exceptions to an article on the probable over-production of peaches, stating, "It was hardly worth while crossing a bridge before coming to it," etc., but the writer thinks the same party will now be willing to come in on the band wagon and admit with frankness that the writer was more than correct in his conclusions at that time and also that it was far better to look a little ahead and prepare for trouble in time of peace; and furthermore, that it is a point well taken for some of the larger growers and dealers to give their ideas and suggestions for the benefit of possible planters who have been ill-advised.

It looks as if the capacity of the markets were given a severe test this season and that they had in most instances more than they could take care of to good advantage, and that 5,000 cars from Georgia is all that can be handled to any advantage. It would be very interesting reading to growers to read some expressions on this subject from various receivers from various markets.

DANSVILLE, N. Y., NURSERIES.

Dansville, N. Y., Oct. 10.—James M. Kennedy: "Up to this writing the fall trade has been very satisfactory. About all the early fall shipments have been made. I am safe in saying that the early shipments will not come up to last year's, as we will not have as many trees to ship this fall as a year ago. Generally speaking, prices have ruled high and the nurserymen will have a prosperous year. We will not have any surplus to carry over for another year. I do not think there is enough stock in the country to supply the demand. Collections have been good up to this writing."

SAVING VINEYARDS.

Effective Remedy Found for Black Rot--Practical Results from Judicious Spraying--Fine Spray Under Great Pressure is Essential--The Method.

In the season of 1902 a considerable number of vineyards in the vicinity of North East, Erie county, Pa., were visited by the fungus disease known as black rot, to such an extent that a number of vineyards were reported as having sustained a loss of one-fourth to one-half of their crop.

The grapes grown in this district are exclusively Concords, and are promptly disposed of as soon as harvested. Practically the entire crop is shipped to the markets of the United States through three or four shipping agencies having offices at North East. The crop of 1902 placed in cars by these firms is estimated at 400 carloads of 3,000 8-pound baskets per car. This was only one-half as much as the crop of 1901 and was regarded as only 25 per cent. of a full crop.

The reason for the short crop was in great part that much wood suffered from winter killing. Frequent rains during the flowering period prevented proper pollination, rendering many bunches of fruit small and imperfect. The black rot was a positive factor in reducing the quantity and quality of the fruit of this season.

For more than twenty years the black rot fungus has been known to exist in vineyards in the eastern half of the United States, in many places lingering unobserved until favorable conditions invite it to attack the unprotected fruit of many million vines.

The very recent experience with this disease in Ohio should be a lesson to grape growers, and early steps should be taken to insure protection against a disastrous outbreak of black rot

FIRST SEEN ON LEAVES.

The first appearance of black rot is likely to take place some time between the middle and last of June, according to the condition of the weather. Only one familiar with the disease will be able to detect it in its early stage. Upon the leaves and young stems it shows itself first as reddish brown spots, oneeighth to one-fourth of an inch in diameter. When these spots are a few days old a small magnifying glass will show one or more black dots near the center of the diseased area. These are the postules of the fungus, containing numerous spores for the propagation of the disease. The vine, being amply supplied with foliage, suffers but little injury from this attack and the vineyardist is but little alarmed by its presence. But when the fruit is involved he knows he is facing a direct loss. Sometimes the berries are attacked when quite small, causing great destruction; but as a rule the attack is first observed when the berries are about half grown, near the middle of July.

It is not difficult to recognize the brown spots on the green berries. This spot soon becomes sunken, and with the magnifying glass one may easily observe the little block dots as in the case of the foliage. In light cases only a few berries of a bunch are attacked, but when the fungus has full sway entire bunches are rotted and every bunch on the vine is ruined.

SPRAYING FOR BLACK ROT.

Before vegetation starts in early May the vines should be sprayed with the 4-4 Bordeaux mixture—that is, four pounds of blue vitriol and four pounds of lime to 50 gallons of water—to catch the spores that are awaiting the opportunity to germinate and effect an entrance into the new wood.

It is important to remember that no fungicide can kill the black rot fungus when it has effected an entrance into the tissue of the plant or berry. The value of the remedy is wholly as a preventive.

Before the grapes come into blossom the vines should again be sprayed to protect the new growth of foliage from attack. The blossoming period extends over ten days or two weeks and no spraying should be done during this time. Use the same Bordeaux formula for this spraying as the first.

As soon as the fruit has set, the vines should again be sprayed with the Bordeaux mixture, being particular to moisten all the foliage above and below. A sprayer to do this successfully should be capable of developing from 90 to 100 pounds constant pressure, and be equipped with a pressure gauge. This delivers the spray with so much force that the leaves are turned and the spray penetrates.

Subsequent spraying should be made at intervals of two weeks until the last of July. If no rot appears by that date it is not probable that it will come; but if it is known to be present in the neighborhood it would be wise to spray once more about the middle of August.

To avoid any danger of spotting the fruit, it would be best to use the weak vitriol—one pound of vitriol to 200 gallons of water—for the last two sprayings.

As an example of the benefits to be derived from spraying, take the vineyard of M. H. Clark, of North East, where the writer personally conducted the spraying during the season of 1903.

Mr. Clark lost fully 40 per cent. of his crop in 1902 by black rot. The adjoining vineyards on each side of him were fully as badly affected

A GRAPHIC COMPARISON.

During the season of 1903 Mr. Clark's vineyard was sprayed six times—before the buds started, before the grapes came into blossom, just as soon as the fruit set, and every two weeks up to the middle of August—using the 4-4 Bordeaux formula for the first four sprayings, and the weak vitriol solution for the last two sprayings. The result was

that it was very hard to find any rot in his vineyard, while the adjoining vineyards, sixteen feet away—lost from 30 per cent. to 50 per cent. of their crop.

On Sept. 27th the writer picked three average bunches from the sprayed, and three bunches affected with rot from the unsprayed vineyards, which were photographed. Fully one-half the bunches in the unsprayed vineyard were in bad condition.

In a conversation with the owner of the vineyard adjoining Mr. Clark on the north, the writer was told that he lost from \$500 to \$800 by not spraying that season, and it is hardly necessary to say that he sprayed this season, and has very little rot in his vineyard.

The most essential thing to successful spraying is to develop a fine mist under a high pressure.

The sprayer used in Mr. Clark's vineyard was equipped with a 10-gallon air tank and pressure gauge, and was made by the E. C. Brown Co., of Rochester, N. Y.



IRVING E. SPAULDING.

IRVING EASTON SPAULDING.

The vice-president of the American Association of Nurserymen for Illinois, Irving E. Spaulding, is 37 years old. When he was 8 years old he obtained his first experience in the nursery business, and when he was 16 he traveled in the interests of his father's nursery. He is now the manager of the Spaulding Nursery and Orchard Company, which has 600 acres under cultivation.

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In Orchard and Field

Guaranteed Free from Worms—The Cove, 16 miles from La Grand, Oregon, which is considered about the best section of Eastern Oregon for fruit, thus far this year has shipped the following: 20,000 boxes of cherries, 5,000 crates of strawberries, 3,000 crates of red raspberries, 1,000 crates of blackberries. Owing to a lack of pickers the loss on strawberries was about 20 per cent., on the raspberries about 40 per cent. There were about 4,000 crates of plums and 30 cars of prunes. The pear crop will be light. The cherry crop amounted to 100,000 boxes. The apple crop will reach 100 carloads. With every car of Cove apples goes an absolute guaranty that they will be free from worms. This is not one-half of the crop that goes out from the Grand Ronde.

Southern Sun Works Wonders—The "West Palm Beach Tropical Sun" is responsible for the following: John B. Beach, the well known fruit grower and nurseryman, has a decidedly interesting tree called the ceriman, growing on his place on the lake front. Just now there are two blossoms on the tree, one of which has so far developed that the curious fruit can be seen. It will take from twelve to fourteen months for the fruit to ripen, but when it does Mr. Beach says it is most delicious. It is described as a combination of the pineapple, banana and strawberry. The fruit grows very readily on this soil and may some day become of commercial value.

To Develop Scuppernong—No fruit is more luxuriant or grows to greater perfection in the southern half of Georgia than the Scuppernong grape. George C. Husmann, viticulturist of the U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry, is investigating the Scuppernong grape with a view to determining the best varieties, methods of culture, pruning, training, etc., as well as the uses to which the fruit can be put. One of the features of tl.is investigation which is considered of particular importance in the locating of vines of this type, either wild or in cultivation, that are known to excel in productiveness, size, color or quality of fruit, or in some other important particular.

The Rocky Ford Habit-In the week just ended all records for melon shipments from the Arkansas valley have been broken, says a recent issue of the Colorado Springs Telegram. In the three days ended last night more than 1,600,000 of the juicy, sweetsmelling cantaloupes have been shipped from Rocky Ford and vicinity, bearing untold gladness to untold thousands in the East, who await their coming with the hungry eagerness with which a half-starved cat waits for a mouse to come out of its hole. Twentyeight carloads on Thursday, thirty-one on Friday, and fifty on Saturday is the record of shipments kept by the railroad officials. The crop is the largest ever harvested in the Arkansas valley, and the cash receipts will he more than double those of last year. No hotel or restaurant or dining car can hope to be considered first-class at this season of the year unless its bill of fare bears the words, "Rocky Ford cantaloupe." Imitations and substitutes don't go. The man who has once sunk his teeth into the delectable morsel from this particular little Colorado town can never forget its peculiarly delicate flavor, as distinctive as the Colorado climate. Compared with it the ordinary muskmelon from Texas or some other benighted land is a mere gourd, hardly fit for human consumption.

Certainly it will never be eaten by anybody who has contracted the Rocky Ford habit.

"AMERICAN FRUITS" SETS THE PACE.

M. J. GRAHAM, ADEL, IA.,—"You have 'set the pace' and deserve the support of 'every live fruit grower.' Herewith find subscription blank and 50 cents."

The Mexican orange crop is being moved. The oranges of the Republic are ready for shipment from a month to six weeks earlier than are the oranges from either Florida or California.

IN CENTRAL STATES

LESSONS FROM SHORT CROP.

Orchardists of Middle Western States Experience Another Disappointment--Suggestion That Use of Fertilizers Would Have Given Blooms the Necessary Development.

JAMES HANDLY, ILLINOIS.

The serious loss of the apple crop in several of the Middle Western States this year will probably never be truly estimated. Many large orchards in Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas, which should have brought prolific returns upon investments during the present year, are almost barren of fruit. In some of those immense orchards in Southern Illinois the trees are nearly as bare of fruit and foliage at the present time as they generally are in the month of December.

Incidentally, we may say the apple growers of Southern Illinois are generally too careless in their efforts to control the ravages of the canker worm. There are exceptions to this rule, as some of the most famous apple growers live in that part of the state; and then, again, the other extreme follows with those who make no effort whatever to drive away the canker worm. This is especially to be regretted when it is so apparent that the canker worm can be extinguished more readily than the codling moth and other pests. But the chief cause of the failure of the apple crop this year in the states mentioned is generally admitted by the most noted apple experts to be due to lack of fertility.

Everyone who has been familiar with the situation knows that the season opened most auspiciously in this part of the country for the most favorable crops. The budding was most abundant and the bloom was most reassuring. Then came the falling of the bloom, carrying many bright hopes and expectations down into the dust. The owners of orchards in many instances who were counting on resources for meeting long deferred debts, met a most unwelcome disappointment, and those in better circumstances who were anticipating surplus money for securing many pleasures which they had heretofore denied, were also placed among those who realized the uncertainties of their vocation.

Now, if anyone will come forward with a proper remedy for this evil, he certainly should receive the most respectful attention. Believing that the cause lies chiefly in the matter of fertilizing, I would urge upon all apple growers to give this matter the most careful study. I feel free to give such advice from the fact that I have not the remotest interest in any fertilizer on the market and can speak as a disinterested person on the subject.

Many fruit growers fertilize in some manner, but they do not do it intelligently. For instance, they will put most any rich dressing on the soil that will force a great growth of wood, without stopping to think that such methods are not helpful to the fruit. Trees must be fed and so must fruit, and what would give force and power to one would have no visible advantage for the other. It goes without saying that a piece of wood and an apple are composed of entirely different parts, and it is not possible for both to be sustained with the same nutriment. It follows that no general directions could be given in favor of any particular fertilizer, for the reason that the soil in different locations is composed of different elements, and as a consequence does not require the same treatment.

Before any kind of a fertilizer should be used, the soil should be examined. You should feel of its pulse, as it were, and learn something about its constitution. And above all things, see what is lacking in its life-giving circulation. The mineral substances can be ascertained by analyzing the ash which plants will yield on combustion. The examination of the soil should be made frequently, at least once a year. It should be remembered that plant life is continually drawing on the elements most needed for its sustenance. The heavier the draft the greater the exhaustion of the stock in trade. It, therefore, would seem that it is not necessary to urge that as fast as the necessary element in the soil has been exhausted it should promptly be replaced.

These facts are patent and it is not neces sary to write a treatise on the soil to prove assertions which anyone can ascertain by using the proper time and patience. The purpose of this article is to reach owners of the thousands of orchards whose trees are without fruitage during the present year and to call their attention to some facts which must be recognized if they would regain their former prestige. And while it is fresh in their minds that the bloom fell to the ground because it did not have strength enough to stay on the tree, they readily can see a lack of force and vitality which should be remedied.

Once in a while we expect a failure in the apple crop, but there is no reason why it should continue in the same orchards year after year. There must be a cause for the effect, and all who lost their crops this year in the portion of the country I have referred to, will readily admit that they would have had a most abundant yield of apples if the blossoms could only have been persuaded to stay with the tree and have proper development.

LARGE DEALERS IN CHERRY TREES.

VINCENNES, IND., Oct. 10.—H. M. Simpson & Sons: "Fall sales are hardly as good as heretofore, yet we have no reason to complain. Cherry is the principal thing we handle and the trade for them is good, with stronger prices ahead, we think. We still have quite a good lot of cherry, one year, to offer for spring, as well as some peach, pear, and other stock.

We have had a very favorable season for growth and our trees were never finer. It is too early to figure on spring business as yet, but we think it will be good."

OHIO NURSERY CONDITIONS.

XENIA, O., Oct. 8.—McNary & Gaines: "Fall business so far may be called good; not specially brisk, but steady. Plums and some sorts of apple are already short of the demand, with surplus cherry rapidly disappearing. A shortage for spring is among the strong possibilities. Pears easy and peach firm."

SMALL FRUIT PLANTS CLEANED UP.

New Carlisle, Ohio, Oct., 10.—W. N. Scarff: "Our business to date is equal to last year's, with prospects bright for later orders. We have more than our usual amount of November shipments, which suggests good spring trade. We have no fears whatever of having any surplus on our hands and prices are such as to make business interesting. We deal in small fruit plants exclusively at wholesale, and are reporting only upon this class of goods."

HUCKLEBERRY INDUSTRY.

TRAVERSE CITY, MICH. Oct. 26.—Owing to the failure of the huckleberry crop three successive years in Maine, J. A. Coffin, of Machias, Me., has contracted for 2,628 cases, each containing 24 two-pound cans from the Kalkaska canning factory this season. Mr. Coffin is endeavoring to buy 40,000 acres of state land in this section of Michigan on the huckleberry plains. If he does so he will engage in huckleberry canning on an immense scale.

AT BRIDGEPORT, IND.

BRIDGEPORT, IND., Oct. 10.—Albertson & Hobbs: "It is a little early yet to say how about the fall business. It seems that nurserymen generally have been rather more conservative in their buying this year, and wholesale trade up to the present time is rather short of what it was last year, or in fact of what it has been for two or three years. Agents have done about their usual work and in some cases dealers have increased their work, so that with the exception of a little shortage in the wholesale trade it now looks like the season's work would be up to that of last year, and we think prospects are for increased business for spring.

"We have had a very good growing season, and stock generally has made up very well. Spring plantings have done well, and we think, altogether, prospects for the nursery business for the next year or two are very good.."

IN WESTERN NEW YORK.

Buyers from Many Points Have Been Attracted by Large Apple Crop--Belief that Prices Will Settle Down to Firm Basis After Election.

Western New York growers believe that after election and when the fall crop of apples has been disposed of, prices for winter apples will settle down to a firm basis. Kings and Twenty-ounce have sold for \$1.50 and \$1.75. Choice winter apples have sold for \$1.50 and \$2.00. Orleans county apples shipped abroad through Pearl Coann, of Albion, have netted commission men \$2.00 and \$2.50, with flattering prospects for later winter varieties.

On the coat lapels of scores of men who may now be seen during the day in all parts of the country about Rochester, and many of whom will be found in the city hotel lobbies in the evening, is a small button, on the face of which is a picture of a red apple, and about this the letters "A. F. & P. T. A.," standing for the American Fruit and Produce Traveler's Association. Apple buyers begin to gather in Rochester about September 1st, and not all of those from other cities leave until the last of January. With the Rochester dealers, there are said to be hundreds of buyers bidding, or preparing to bid, for the produce of the orchards of Monroe county and counties about it. Outside buyers are from Pittsburg, St. Louis, Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Paul, and other cities in the East and West.

The buyers are alert business men, and they are perfectly familiar with conditions in New York state. Some of them have been in Rochester year after year for twenty, twentyfive and thirty years. While comparatively few apples are being bought, the buyers do not appear to be worrying deeply over conditions in the market. One of them said: "I have just received word from my company that I am to attend the meeting of a fruit growers' association in North Carolina, and I leave for there to-morrow. I pass by my home in going there, and I shall be allowed perhaps twenty-four hours with my family in going and returning. I have been away from home since June, during which time I have been back in all for but five days. I have been traveling for twenty-five years. I think I could succeed in any other business, but I wouldn't be contented in anything else. You see, I understand this business."

Black Ben Davis apples propagated by Stark Bros. Nurseries and Orchards Co., Louisiana, Mo., are attracting much attention, especially in the Washington and Colorado state exhibits. Stark trees certainly bear fruit.

MARYLAND FRUIT SEASON.

Denton, Md., Oct. 20.—John S. Barnhart: "Caroline, the progressive fruit growing county of the Eastern Shore, has passed through an unusually profitable peach season. One orchard of eight acres, bought eight months ago at \$100 per acre, netted an amount equal to the purchase price. Still larger net returns are reported.

"The demand for peach trees will exhaust local supply. With few exceptions the strawberry crop was a failure, some small plantations well cared for were reasonably profitable. The demand for plants will be lighter than for several years. The early apple crop was quite satisfactory to the growers, generally yielding a net profit of \$150 per acre.

"The planter trade in peach, apple, and pear will be 25 per cent. larger than last year. The wholesale demand up to date is lighter than for two years past, due, I presume, to the large stocks and low prices of Western growers."

NUT GROWERS' CONVENTION.

The third annual convention of the National Nut Growers' Association, was held in the Hall of Congress, St. Louis, October 26–28. Among those who were scheduled on the program were: N. J. Colman, F. W. Taylor, G. M. Bacon, H. A. Halbert, Alfred Gaskill, F. H. Burnette, John S. Horlbeck, George K. Holmes, J. F. Jones, John T. Stinson, R. S. MacIntosh, Herbert C. White, W. A. Taylor, S. W. Peck, Dr. J. B. Curtis, Charles E. Pabst, Dr. James B. Hunnicutt, Sam Dixon, H. S. Watson, J. B. Wight, L. A. Berckmans.

BALTIMORE NURSERY CONDITIONS.

Baltimore, Oct. 19.—Franklin Davis Nursery Co.: "We have been shipping for about three weeks, and orders are coming in very much better than we had expected early in the season. The demand for sweet cherries, plums, and peach trees seems to be far ahead of the supply, and many kinds will be entirely exhausted this fall. Prices generally are fair, except on apples which are entirely too low. The digging has been good up to this time, but we would like to see a little more rain to soften the ground. Labor is very scarce, and what we are able to find is trifling and indifferent."

J. G. Carlisle, of the Central of Georgia railroad finds that the Georgia peach crop this year amounted to 4,488 carloads. At the beginning of the season a crop of 6,000 carloads was estimated.

Recent Publications

"Citrus Fruits and Their Culture" is the title of a volume by H. Harold Hume, professor of horticulture and botany in the University of Florida. It is a timely book and will be fully appreciated by the many persons who have long been engaged in the production and handling of citrus fruits, and by the many who are yearly engaging in the culture of these fruits. In his preface the author calls attention to the fact that the closing decades of the nineteenth century saw great changes in the principles of citrus fruit culture in America. Twenty years ago the amount of fruit produced was comparatively small; now the industry has attained a place among the large horticultural industries of the country. Then a few hundred boxes of fruit were produced annually; now the crop is counted by millions of boxes, and we have an industry on the broad lines of American progress. This book is divided into parts treating of botany, history and varieties; cultural directions; disease and insects; literature on the subject, and variety lists. The sweet cranges, mandarin oranges, the pomelos, the shaddocks, the kumquats, the citrons, the lemons and the limes are each treated in detail. Stocks for citrus trees, soils, locating the grove, fertilizing and irrigation, frost protection, pruning, treatment of diseases and handling the crop are discussed at length, and well-known authorities are quoted. The volume is fully illustrated and should be valuable to all who are in any way interested in the culture or handling of citrus fruits. In the appendix is a list of the members of the National League of Commission Merchants. The book is dedicated to Hon. George Lindley Taber, the well-known president of the Florida Horticultural Society and prominent nurseryman and fruit grower. It is handsomely bound. Cloth: 8vo: pp. 597. Illustrations, 124; plates, 18. Jacksonville, Fla.: The H. & W. B. Drew Co.

"The State of Missourl: An Autobiography," edited for the Missouri Commission to the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, by Walter Williams, a quarto volume of 592 pages, published by the commission, is an interesting and instructive review of the great industries of the fifth state of the Union in point of population and material wealth. The story of the state, its resources, its great cities and its representation at the World's Fair are told by those best qualified to do so. The chapter on Horticulture is by L. A. Goodman, of course, for the secretary of the State Horticultural Society is fully able to present all the facts fairly and attractively. Special appreciation of the aid of Professor J. C. Whitten, of the University of Missouri, is given. The work is beautifully printed and profusely illustrated. Eight thousand copies were distributed to appreciative persons.

One of the leading receivers of deciduous and citrus fruits in New York city said: "The effect of the removal of the refrigerator car monopoly on the fruit business would be enormous. It would mean that instead of paying \$125 per car the rate would be cut down to less than one-half. The actual cost of refrigeration is between \$35 and \$40 per car. With the rate cut down to this figure it would mean a complete revival of the orange and deciduous fruit business for the coming season."

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Correspondence from all points and articles of interest to growers and dealers in fruits of all kinds are solicited.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., NOVEMBER, 1904.

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nch, Boston, Mass.

National League of Commission Merchants

President. Charles B. Ayres, Chicago; secretary, A. Warren

tch, Boston, Mass.

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Mississippi Valley Apple Growers Associa-- President, S. N. Black, Clayton, Ill.; secretary, James

andly, Quincy, Ill.

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Scotia Fruit Growers Association-P. Innes, Coldbrook, N. S.; secretary, S. C. Parker,

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ais, Mo. Missouri Valley Worticultural Association realdent. George W. Holsinger, Argentine, Kan.; secretary, H.

E.Chandler, Argentine, Kan.

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Mation—President, R. C. Berkmans, August, Ga.; viceresident, A. L. Brooke; secretary, Thomas B. Meehan, Dresherwen, Pa.; treasurer, Peter Youngera. Meets annually in June.

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orge C. Seager, Rochester, N. Y. Meets annually in June.

American Retail Nurserymen's Protective
association—President, Charles J. Brown, Rochester, N. Y.;
cretary, Guy A. Bryant, Princeton, Ill. Meets annually in Jane.

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tkin, Rochester, N. Y. Meets annually in January.

Western Wholesale Nurserymen's Associaon—President, F. H. Stannard, Ottawa, Kan.; secretary, E. J.
olman, Leavenworth, Kan. Meets in July and December at
mass City, Mo.

Southern Nurserymen's

naa City, Mo.

Southern Nurserymen's Association—Presit, Herbert S. Chase, Huntsville, Ala.; vice-president, J. C. le, Winchester, Tenn.; secretary, Charles T. Smith, Concord.

. Meets annually.

Southwestern Nurserymen's Association—
esident, J. W. Preston, Kingfisher, Okl. Terr.; secretary, J. A.
ylor, Wynnewood, Ind. Terr. Texas Nurserymen's Association - President, M. Kirkpatrick, McKinney, Tex.; secretary, John S. Kerr,

Sherman, Tex.

Pacific Coast Association of Nurserymen—
President, J. B. Pilkington, Portland, Ore.; accretary-treasurer, C.

A. Tonneson, Tacoms, Wash. Meets annually in June.

Pennsylvania Nurserymen's Association—
President, W. H. Moon, Morrisville, Pa.; accretary, Earl Peters,
Mt. Holly Springs, Pa. Next annual meeting at Harrisburg, in

January.

National Association of Retail Nurseryrnen-President, William Pitkin, Rochester, N. Y.; secretary,
John B. Kiley, Rochester, N. Y.

WINTER APPLE CROP.

Recent advices regarding the winter apple crop show that the earlier estimate will have to be cut down. Wind has whipped trees throughout the northeastern part of the country where the prospects were the best. In New York state, apple buyers had to pay more than the dollar per barrel they agreed upon.

Cider mills have been overworked as the result of the premature dropping from the trees. Frosts in Maine and the fungus in Nova Scotia have caused losses. The yield of fall apples in Canada was good, but the winter crop is light. In the West the crop is about onequarter. New York apples have been selling at \$1 to \$1.40, superior Monroe county apples selling as high as \$1.85.

CREATING PRICES.

Gradually the progressive fruit growers are adopting the devices which have proved so successful in marketing products other than fruits. By skillful advertising and the placing of its goods on the market in an attractive manner a well known biscuit company, for instance, has created a demand for its particular brand at remunerative prices. This concern delivers a loaf of bread wrapped in white tissue paper the ends of which are slashed into a fringe. Upon the outside of this wrapper is a neatly printed placard corresponding with the announcement by the company so persistently made in periodicals that the general public immediately recognizes the product of that house and when anything in that line is wanted the name of the brand is uppermost in the mind of the purchaser. There is no question as to price; the particular brand is what is desired.

The time will come when these business methods will prevail in the marketing of fruit. Some well-known growers have been employing these methods successfully for several years. It is a simple matter: Produce the goods; advertise them effectively; place them on the market attractively, and fulfill all promises.

COMMISSION MEN AROUSED.

Commission men all over the country hailed with delight the announcement made officially last month at the hearing by the Interstate Commerce Commission, in Chicago, that Armour & Company had withdrawn from the fruit trade. That this was the direct result of the agitation by the National League of Commission Merchants against excessive changes for transportation by the private car companies, was admitted by the attorney for Armour & Company.

At the hearing in Chicago which was a continuation of the hearing in June, representatives of the private carlines and packing firms declined to answer certain questions but by the Interstate Commerce Commission and it is probable that the Federal Courts will be asked to determine the jurisdiction of the

commission and the status of the private car lines. In refusing to answer the questions the witnesses questioned the jurisdiction of the commission and declared that their companies were not common carriers.

J. T. Marchand prosecuted the case for the commission, assisted by G. W. Plummer and other lawyers or the National League, and John C. Scales, George B. Ayres, A. F. Mead, E. G. Davies and other members of the League. Commissioner Judson C. Clements presided, sitting with commissioners James D. Yeomans and Charles A. Prouty.

J. W. Midgely, at one time chairman of the Western Freight Association, was the most important witness. He said:

"The private car lines now form one of the greatest trusts in the country. Their power is absolute, not only upon the shippers but upon the railroads. They have the latter as firmly within their grasp as the former. Because of their control of shipping through friendly or allied companies, the railroads do not dare to oppose them. I am employed by not one but all railroads for the purpose of instituting economic reforms in their management. I have introduced more reforms and made more improvements in railroad management than any other one man. Further than this, there is no one over me. I am my own boss, and therefore am free to make the statements I do. There is no way they can get me. No one else would dare to make such statements in the face of the power of the private car lines. The companies owning the cars can make or break the market. It is wonderful the influence they have. The car company which now controls the price of beef is rapidly getting within its grasps the fruit trade and the dairy products trade.

"My solution of the problem is in the per diem system. Put these cars on the per diem basis, say 50 cents a day for refrigerator cars and 30 cents for stock cars. Or I can state authoritatively that there is \$50,000,000 in New York capital ready to buy up all the cars on the market and operate them in a legitimate way. That would be a solution. The packers and those engaged in the fruit and other trades would then have to pay an equal rate to all and all shippers would be on an equal basis."

James S. Watson, of the firm of Porter Brothers, admitted that he probably realized \$50,000 a year through his connection with Porter Brothers, through their transactions with the Fruit Growers' Express Company, as This the prosecution attempted to show was in the nature of rebates.

E. G. Davies, commission merchant, of Chicago, testified that an agent of the Armour company called him from his office and told him that he might as well go out of business. He said they threatened that no freight consigned to him by shippers would be received unless all charges were paid in advance by the shippers. The alleged threat of Armour's agents was carried out, Davies testified.

"The conditions in the fruit business in the Michigan Fruit belt are most alarming," said Mr. Davies. "Since the Armour & Co., through the Armour refrigerator line, have secured the exclusive contract with the Pere Marquette and the Michigan Central railroad companies which compels the growers and shippers to use the Armour cars and pay Armour prices, the rates for icing have increased 4163/3 per cent.

The Armour Company will submit affidavits to the commission setting forth its side of the

PROSPERITY IN THE NORTHWEST.

The financial conditions in the extreme northwestern section of the United States are most encouraging. The farmers have uniformly had good crops. Fruit crops have been abundant and have been marketed to advantage. Plans for large extensions of the fruit industry are in view. The two events of greatest interest to the business public of Oregon and Washington are the Lewis and Clark Exposition which will be held from May 15th until October 15th, 1905, and the Panama canal which will have a marked effect upon transportation matters.

The Milton, Oregon, branch of the Walla Walla, Washington, Produce Company reports that peaches this year have been a splendid crop. Crawford, Malta, Perfection, Indian and Lemon cling being the leading varieties. The total value to the growers of the fruit handled this year by the Milton branch will be between \$50,000 and \$60,000. This includes small fruits, melons and regular fruit shipments. The apples mostly grown around Freewater and Milton are the Rome Beauty, Ben Davis, Willow Twig and Wine Sap.

ADVERTISING FRUIT.

In California an experiment has just been tried in the way of advertising cured fruits that, by reason of its marked success, establishes a precedent. Not long ago the firm of Siegel, Cooper & Co., department store, in New York, introduced California raisins and prunes to the people of the Eastern metropolis at cost, selling thousands of cartons of cured fruit in a short time. During a sale which closed on October 1st, the department store firm of Weinstock, Lubin & Co., sold 6,662 one pound packages of the cured fruit at its Sacramento store and in a single day 16,000 one pound packages at its San Francisco store. The prunes and raisins were sold at five cents per pound, the cost price, for the purpose of advertising the product. It is the intention to make similar sales in the large cities of the

This is practical work in the education of the public to use fruit. It opens the way for the introduction of other fruit. Manufacturers of breakfast foods have created an enormous demand for their products by furnishing them in small packages attractively put up and by guaranteeing all packages alike. When the public has learned to depend upon the even quality of a brand of fruit, the reputation of the grower producing that brand is made. That is the goal which the successful fruit grower will strive quickly to attain. That is the way others have been successful in other lines of commerce. Why not in fruit?

SNOW APPLES PROFITABLE.

A Monroe county fruit grower showed to a representative of AMERICAN FRUITS last month a row of seven Snow apple trees from which he took fruit last year that yielded \$135. The row runs north and south, and this year the west side of the trees is laden with beautiful, smooth Snow apples. Last year the east side of the row gave the crop, and so these trees bear in alternate years. Spraying is done thoroughly and systematically with a gas engine sprayer, and this grower has uniform success with his Snow apples. He has also a large Lady apple tree which bears miniature red apples that take a brilliant finish when polished, and are used for trimming Christmas trees and for other decorative purposes. This tree yielded last year three barrels of apples which brought \$7 per barrel.

THE VERMONT APPLE CROP.

Editor AMERICAN FRUITS:

From information at hand it would appear. that the Vermont apple crop for the present season is about a normal one. In general, however, it consists to quite a large extent of fall varieties, and is therefore of less commercial importance than if the winter varieties predominated. Of the winter varieties the Rhode Island Greening is the heaviest cropper, with Fameuse, Baldwin and Northern Spy following in the order mentioned. As a rule the fruit is free from scab and of good size; the vigor of the tree is also good. In some sections the railroad worm is doing considerable damage to the early varieties.

Apple orcharding seems to be on the increase, but not to the extent it ought. The continued high price of barrels will prove a serious drawback to marketing the crop.

October 10, 1904. WILLIAM STUART.

SOUTH AFRICAN FRUIT.

Cape fruit imported into London, England, in six years is represented by these figures: 1899, 10,817 boxes; 1900, 17,336 boxes; 1901, 17,263 boxes; 1902, 14,998 boxes; 1903, 21,968 boxes; 1904, 34,723 boxes.

A comparison between 1903 and 1904 as to varieties is here shown in a table furnished to the California Fruit Grower:

	Boxes	Boxes
Grapes	 9,043	7,641
Plums	 7,457	13,553
Peaches	 3,276	7,876
Pears	 705	3,177
Apricots	 32	1,220
Nectarines	 1,201	1,209
Apples	 22	47
Quinces	 29	_
Pomegranates	 3	_

The value of last season's imports was approximately \$40,000, about 5 per cent. of which was sent to the American market.

The growing of fruit in South Africa does not come into competition with California fruit. Cape fruit reaches the American and European markets in the winter time after the season in California is over.

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Programme—Harlan P. Kelsey, Boston; H. B. Chase, Huntsville, Ala.; John S. Kerr, Sherman, Tex.

Publicity—Ralph T. Olcott, Rochester, N. Y.; Orlando Harrison, Berlin, Md.; J. Horace McFarland, Harrisburg, Pa.

Exhibits—R. C. Berckmans, Augusta, Ga.; J. C. Hale, Winchester, Tenn.; M. B. Fox, Rochester, N. Y.

To Edit Report — J. Horace McFarland, C. L. Watrous,
George C. Seager.

To meet Western freight classification committee at Manitou,
Colo.—Peter Youngers, Geneva, Neb.; E. Albertson, Bridgport, Ind.

To meet Eastern freight classification committee in New York City-William H. Moon, Morrisville, Pa.; James McHutchison, New York; Howard Davis, Baltimore, Md.

To meet Southern freight classification committee—H. B. Chase, untsville, Ala.; R. C. Berckmans, Augusta, Ga.
Annual Convention—West Baden Springs, Ind., June 14, 1905.

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min Newhall, Chicago.

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AMERICAN APPLE GROWERS' CONGRESS.

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UNDER SOUTHERN SKIES

IN SOUTHERN NURSERIES.

P. J. Berckmans Company Reports Heavy Demand for General Nursery Stock--Nursery Convention in Atlanta Was Good Thing for the South--Fruit Land in Demand.

L. A. BERCKMANS, GEORGIA.

The demand for general line of nursery stock is very heavy with us. Commercial varieties of peaches are in great demand. We are glad to report that Elberta is not being ordered as heavily as in the past few years. In some sections the planting of Elberta has been overdone.

The Nurserymen's Convention in Atlanta was a good thing for Georgia; it brought to this state many persons who were unacquainted with our possibilities, and we have had many inquiries from prospective investors in fruit land in Georgia since the Atlanta meeting. There is plenty of room in Georgia for the progressive and up-to-date orchardist.

Pecans are being planted in large numbers, and it has been demonstrated that first quality

FRUIT GROWERS MAKE \$1,758,293.

In his report at the annual meeting of the East Carolina Truck and Fruit Growers Ass'n, Secy. H. T. Bouman reported:

"The total acreage planted in strawberries in 1904 was 6,825 acres, against 6,474 acres in 1903. The total number of crates shipped in 1904 was 548,709 against 493,734 in 1903. There was an increase in the general average per acre also. In 1904 the average was 80 crates to the acre and in 1903 77 crates. The net increase in the number of crates over 1903 was 54,985, or 165 cars.

"The strawberry distribution this season was even superior to that of last year and embraced many new markets. At no time was there an oversupply in any one market, although our daily shipments for quite a period were some hing almost startling. On may 10 214 refrigerator cars of strawberries passed through Rocky Mount. Of these, 40 went to New York. This held good also on other days, when 141, 110, 131, 136, 109 and 100



YOUNG PECAN ORCHARD IN CONCHO, COLORADO COUNTY.
FROM "THE EARTH."

nuts pay handsomely. The farmers are receiving good prices for their cotton, consequently the retail orders are coming in rapidly. Our shipments to the wholesale trade in the West and East are largely increasing. Much stock in Middle Georgia is now thoroughly hardened up, and in proper shipping condition; but owing to the drought which has prevailed for the last six weeks digging is difficult, and in some stiff lands an impossibility.

Ornamental trees, plants, and shrubs are being called for in large numbers. This is an encouraging and healthful sign, indicating that the people at large are paying more attention to beautifying their grounds, and making their homes and surroundings more attractive. Civic improvement leagues are being established in many cities and small towns, and there is a growing demand for nursery-grown shade trees for street and avenue planting.

Altogether the prospects for a heavy fall trade are most encouraging. It is yet too early to give an idea as to prospects of spring trade.

refrigerator cars, respectively, were forwarded from South Rocky Mount.

"From information in hand and from reports sent in to me from the various growers in each section, the average gross price of strawberries to the growers was \$2 per crate. There were shipped 548,709 crates—bringing to this section from strawberries alone—\$1,097,418.

"From information furnished me by the truckers of Wilmington and other points, and from my knowledge of the markets at the time of shipping, the gross price to the growers on vegetables, namely, lettuce, beans, peas, etc., potatoes and cantaloupes was about as follows: Lettuce, 80,000 packages, \$1.50 per package, \$120,000; beans, peas and other vegetables, 126,570 packages, \$1 per package, \$126,570; dewberries, 11,443 packages or crates, \$2 per crate, \$22,886; Irish potatoes, 102,018 barrels, \$2.50 per barrel, \$255,045; cantaloupes, 90,316 packages, 1.50 per package, \$136,374. Total, \$660,875. Grand total strawberries and truck, \$1,758,293."

TEXAS POSSIBILITIES.

Climate and Soil Especially Adapted to Fruit Growing--Peaches, Figs, Bananas--Railroad Facilities Increasing--More Canneries to be Established.

When it comes to the raising of fruits and vegetables, there is not the equal of this country, much less its superior, to be found, says the Houston, Tex., Post. The climate is such and the soil is such that only the minimum amount of cultivation is demanded, and then, too, the general immunity of the country from freezes and frosts always assures a crop of such proportions as to keep going practically the year round the largest number of packeries and canneries possible of establishment. The canneries and fruit packeries already established are doing and will continue to do an immense amount of business, and the steady and widespread demand for their output is of such constant growth that there is never the slightest danger of overproduction. It is only within the last few years that general attention has been directed to the vast possibilities of this region in the truck producing line, and it is one of the wonderful things of recent days the way it is being developed.

Thousands of carloads of peaches, pears, cabbage, onions, cucumbers and corn pass through Houston each season, all of which might just as well be handled right here as well as at points beyond the state.

During the past few years the culture of figs has become interesting. Though the culture of this plant is only in its infancy in this section, the success with which it has met gives promise that within the near future fig culture will have become a very important industry. In order to make the fig crop a revenue producer, it will be necessary to start preserving plants, which up to this time has not been done.

The outposts of fruit and truck are now found thickly dotted all over the country between Sherman and Shreveport, and from Red river south to the real fruit and truck districts of Smith and Cherokee counties.

As a fruit and truck growing proposition Nacogdoches is ideally located. The town is at the junction of the Houston East and West Texas railroad and the Beaumont-Dallas division of the Texas and New Orleans railroad and is surrounded by an immense area of the famous red lands especially adapted to peaches and tomatoes.

In the production of bananas the Brownsville country will find little or no domestic opposition, the entire supply of the United States at present coming from Central and South America. It may take a few years before the industry can be placed on a solid, stable, commercial basis, but it seems as if there is nothing to hinder its development to the point where "the Brownsville country" will be the recognized tropical fruit garden of the continent.

APPLE GROWERS' CONGRESS.

The American Apple Growers' Congress will hold its third annual meeting in Library Hall at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, Mo., on November 9th, 10th, and 11th. The programme for this meeting will be as follows:

Opening address by Frederick W. Taylor, of St.

Picking and Handling for Market, and the Best Method of Disposing of the Crop-Hon. H. M. Dunlap, Savoy, Ill., and Prof. M. L. Dean, Lansing, Mich. Foreign Markets and What Can be Done to Extend Them-Prof. W. A. Taylor, Washington, D. C.

Southern Markets and How to Reach Them-Samnel Dixon, Houston, Texas, and Louis Erb, Memphis,

Eastern Orcharding-T. B. Wilson, Hall's Corners,

Commercial Packages and Packing-F. W. Hayne, of New York; Judge Wellhouse, of Kansas, and Charles H. Williamson, of Quincy, Ill.

Quality versus Quantity - Prof. L. H. Bailey, Ithaca, N. Y.; C. H. Miller, of West Virginia, and Prof. J. C. Whitten, of Missouri.

State or Government Inspection of Apples for Home or Foreign Markets-Hon. Alec. McNeill, Ottawa, Canada.

Judging Apples by Scale of Points-Prof. L. H. Taft, Lansing, Mich.

The Six Most Promising New Varieties in the North West-Prof. N. E. Hanson, Brookings, S. D.

New Varieties for the South West-D. W. Kirkpatrick, McKinney, Texas. Results of Recent Experiments in Controlling the

Apple Curculio-Prof. C. S. Crandall, Urbana, Ill., and Fred. E. Brooks, Morgantown, W. Va.

Hotel Epworth will be headquarters for this meeting. T. C. Wilson, Hannibal, Mo., is the secretary of the Association.

NURSERYMEN'S Ornamental PLATES

An experience of over 30 years and our un-equaled facilities have made our plates leaders. They are used by the leading nurserymen and agents in the United States and Canada. A trial order will convince you of their superiority.
Send for catalogue and prices.

M. BRUNSWICK & CO.,
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Vincennes Nurseries W. C. REED, Prop.

INCENNES, IND. Offer for Fall and Spring the following in Car Load Lots or less.

> Apple 2 and 3 year. Peach 1 yr. all grades. Pear 1, 2, and 3 year. Plum (Japan) 1 and 2 year. Cherry 1 and 2 year, very fine.

Our Cherry run 4 to 534 feet up at one year; try them. Also Shade Trees, Small Fruits, Roses, Etc. Send us a list of your wants for prices, or call and look our plant over.

FROM VARIOUS POINTS.

The twelfth National Irrigation Congress will be held at El Paso, Texas, Nov. 15th-18th.

New York state fruit growers have been prospecting around Bonesteel, S. D., where they say exceptional opportunities for grape growing exist.

William C. Barry, of the well-known nursery firm of Ellwanger & Barry, Rochester, N. Y., has been elected president of the Monroe County Good Roads Asso-

The firms of J. D. Hendrickson and Robert & Andrews, commission merchants, have combined under the incorporated name of the Hendrickson & Andrews Company, Philadelphia.

The steamship Athos, of the Di Giorgie company, recently arrived at Baltimore with 18,500 bunches of bananas, 2,000 cocoanuts and 4,700 barrels of oranges, a record cargo.

The power of advertising has been exemplified in the fact that 23,000 packages of prunes weighing about eleven and one-half tons, were sold by Weinstock, Lubin & Co., in San Francisco, in three days.

Sam H. Dixon and John S. Kerr are prominent workers in the South Texas Fruit Growers' association. Both are well known to readers of AMERICAN FRUITS.

The G. M. Bacon Pecan Co., DeWitt, Ga., is undoubtedly the most progressive concern in the country in the culture and dissemination of the pecan. They have just issued No. II. of their handsomely illustrated catalogue bound in carbon-black, gold embossed bristol board, descriptive of varieties, methods of culture, etc. Everyone who is interested in pecan culture should have this catalogue. It is comprehensive and authoritative.

Apple buyers, who were in Rochester, N. Y., on October 19th, tendered a birthday dinner to John H. Beckerman, who represents William Hartman, of St. Louis. Among those present were: Barber, of Frank M. Barber Company, Chicago; H. B. Pearson, of M. O. Coggins Company, Pittsburg; Curt Newman, of J. W. Newman & Company, Indianapolis; Charles Norris, Rochester; K. W. King, representing C. C. Emerson, St. Paul, Minn.; T. E. Johnson, representing Thomas H. McGowan, Pittsburg; William Lee, representing J. L. Keech, Indianapolis; John Taylor, representing George P. Schopp & Company, St. Louis, and H. W. Hartwell.

NURSERY BUSINESS IN MARYLAND.

BERLIN, MD., Oct. 11.-J. G. Harrison & Sons: "We are now digging trees, both peach and apple; have shipped a few cars and are expecting to get several cars off this week. We have some very large orders booked for this fall and the prospect is very encouraging."

GOVERNMENT TO TEST FRUIT.

Germany having declared an embargo on dessicated fruits containing more than 125 per cent. of sulphurous acid, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has issued a circular notifying exporters of such fruits of the fact and informing them that the department upon application will make an official inspection of such cargoes and furnish a certificate as to the amount of sulphurous acid contained therein.

TO DESTROY SAN JOSE SCALE.

Fruit-growers everywhere will be interested in the announcement elsewhere in this issue of the perfection of a concentrated lime-salt-sulphur mixture, for use in spraying against San Jose scale. As is well known, the lime-salt-sulphur mixture has been found to be the most effective insecticide for fighting San Jose scale. The only trouble has been that many persons have found it rather difficult to make. Now, however, there will be no trouble on this score, for the American Horticulture Distributing Co., of Martinsburg, W. Va., after much experimenting, has perfected a concentrated solution, called "Con-Sol," which has been well tested and found to be effective. In using Con-Sol, no cooking is required-simply mix the preparation with water, and spray the trees. Special attention is called to the advertisement of this firm, and all who are interested should write for full particulars concerning this new

Prof. U. P. Hedrick, Department of Horticulture, Michigan Agricultural College.—" Find enclosed 50 cents in stamps for which send me AMERICAN FRUITS

"I read your paper with interest and am more sure as each succeeding number comes, that there is a place for it among our horticultural papers."

THE L. GREEN & SON CO. Western Reserve Nurseries

PERRY, LAKE COUNTY, OHIO

Carry a most complete line of the wants of the trade.

A fine assortment of Perennials properly grown and handled and

A fine assortment of *Perennials* properly grown and handled and packed right; can ship at any time to any place.

Strong surplus of *American Sweet Chestnut*—all sizes from two feet up. *Carolina Poplars*—all sizes, extra fine blocks. Nice stock of *Currants, Grapes, Rhubarb, Silver Maple, Weigellas, Spirea Van Houti, Am. Snowball, Cornus ass't., Privet, Purple Fringe, Deutzias, Syringas, Hydrangea, Yuccas and Honeysuckles.*Also *Arbor Vitae, Siberian, Pyramidalis* and *Tom Thumb. Pines*—assorted, *Hemlock* and *Spruce*. All evergreens three times transplanted and extra fine.

Please send us your lists to price.

Correspondence solicited and inspection invited.

NURSERYMEN'S 'NIVES, We have been selling direct to nurserymen since '77. Our blades are hand forged and warranted; if we can learn how to make them better they will be made that way. We mail goods all over the world. Twenty of our best customers are in Europe. The cut shows our Nursery Budder, sample by mail, 25c.; 12 by mail, \$2.25. Pocket Budder, 35c. Nursery Pruner, sample, 50c.; 6 for \$2.50. Send for 12 page nursery circular.



MAHER & GROSH CO. 92 A STREET TOLEDO, OHIO.

AMERICAN FRUIT ABROAD

HOW TO SHIP ABROAD.

Practical Suggestions By an Expert--Boxes Versus Barrels--Directions for Packing--Freight and Expenses--Why Smaller Packages Are Preferable--Up-to-Date Boxes.

PEARL COANN, NEW YORK.

The market of the apple growers should not be limited to a few middlemen buyers. Refrigerator cars on the railroads and chilled chambers in the holds of swift steamers have brought the markets of the world to the farmer's door. He can sell his fruit in the crowded cities of Europe as easily as in the nearest railroad town.

The through bill of lading is a contract to take the fruit from your station, transfer it to the steamers and land it at its destination. All you have to do is to load the car and mail the bill of lading to your consignee in Europe. It is as easy for you as for the New York apple broker who buys your fruit through his agents.

Elmwood barrels have become costly. Barrels made of beech and other wood are inferior; they warp after the apples are in and



burst their hoops. Many barrels got over to Europe last season with quarter hoops gone and heads shrunk into ridges.

Shippers should never use inferior barrels. If they do so, they are certain to lose money, or at the best make no more than they would at home.

DIRECTIONS FOR PACKING.

Large profits on apples depend on the packing and the conditions of the fruit when it arrives. All apples for export should be picked earlier than for the home market to allow for mellowing in transit. If barrels come slack they have either to be repacked at great inconvenience and expense or sold as slacks for less than they would bring at home.

There is one rule for barrel packing for export which includes most of the other rules. It is: Get into the barrel just as many apples as you possibly can. When packing, do not stand the barrel on the soft earth of the orchard, which acts as a cushion. Instead, put the barrel on a solid foundation, such as a

stone-boat, and as you fill shake the apples down hard until you can get in no more. Do not rely on the press to make the barrel tight. If you do not shake them the ship will and the barrel will arrive slack.

Drive the hoops at the stem-end, headline the barrel and nail the quarter hoops before



you pack. Use good elm head linings. Soak them for a day or two to render them pliant and they will bend more readily when nailed in place with short wire nails. For the quarter hoops use only short nails driven slantwise. Or, if you use longer nails clinch them carefully so they will not injure the fruit. Use only three or four nails in the end hoops as there is no strain there and the head linings hold the head in place.

First lay a round piece of blank newspaper in the bottom of the barrel. If you like, put your name or that of your farm on it. Let your stem-end apples be of the average size of their grade. Do not make the stem-end of big apples when the rest of the contents of the barrel are not like them. Let the stem-end apples be uniform, of good color and shape, and laid neatly stem down. Do not grudge the time for this, it will add many a dollar to the market value of the consignment.

PACKING BOXES.

The first and foremost rule for box-packing is the same as for barrel-packing—get as



many apples in as you can. In box-packing no press is used and great care should be taken not to indent or bruise the fruit, As you pack grade the apples into three sizes, "Fancy," "A" and "B." To do this put three boxes at the foot of the sorting table, lay stem-ends of the three grades and don't mix them. During the packing shake the boxes thoroughly three or four times. Reject all malformed and injured apples.

All fancy grade apples should be wrapped in newspaper. This keeps the temperature even, excludes germs and moisture, and apples so treated keep twice as long. Late in the season wrapped apples that go soft do so without injuring those about them. On other grades the cost of labor outweighs the advantages.

It is always well to face apples with paper. Printed newspaper is as good as blank. When the boxes are filled set the different grades by themselves. Before you nail on the covers put on a layer of excelsior not over half an inch thick, tucking it into the interstices. Do not crush the cover down upon apples that stand out above the level; remove them and put in smaller ones or fill in with excelsior.

Stencil both ends of the box, not the top. In the warehouses the boxes are stored in solid blocks and it is not desirable to shift



them to see what they are. The New York and Glasgow Fruit Company uses paper labels of three colors for its three grades in order to lessen confusion. They can be pasted on more quickly than a box could be stencilled and they will always indicate the top of the box.

Both top and bottom of the box should be nailed through cleats—the top for easy inspection, the bottom for easy repacking if that becomes necessary.

FREIGHT AND EXPENSES.

The ocean freight on a barrel of apples is usually sixty cents. The railroad freight in full carloads is usually about 16 cents per hundred pounds from Orleans County to New York City. This includes loading on the steamer. A full carload is about 200 or 225 barrels. A car will hold 600 to 700 Orleans apple boxes.

Apples and pears carried in the ship's refrigerator chambers make a cost of \$2.40 per ton of 40 cubic feet extra.

On landing there are a few small charges for dock space and weighing. Cartage is very

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The Oakland Nurseries. C. R. BURR, Prop.

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inexpensive and good storage is cheap. In some of the ports the boxes can be left a reasonable time on the quay and sold there, avoiding both storage and cartage.

Present ocean freight on dried fruit is \$3.60 per ton of 40 cubic feet, and the rate does not vary much at any time.

The accompanying cuts represent several



styles of apple boxes, pear boxes and bushel crates. Style number 2, the Orleans, is the one we specially recommend for exporting apples. After a wide experience with boxes of different manufacturers' make, which was not entirely satisfactory, we placed our order at the close of the season 1903, for 1,600



boxes of this style with the Montgomery Door & Box Company, of Buffalo, who make a specialty of packages for fruit. We were surprised to have each and every one of these 1,600 boxes arrive at our Glasgow warehouse entirely intact and in perfect condition.

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September 9, 1904.

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Gentlemen—I have read with much interest all the issues of AMERICAN FRUITS, and am deeply impressed with the importance of your conception of a journal to unify the fruit inter-ests of the United States and other American and to focus the available information concerning their cultural and commercial progress so that any grower can have a good view of the whole field. Your journal should at once arrive at wide recognition and patronage.

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From the President of the Pacific Coast Association of Nurserymen

J. B. PILKINGTON

Grower and Importer of Fine Nursery Stock

Portland, Ore., Aug. 11, 1904.

American Fruits Publishing Co., Rochester, N. Y.

Gentlemen — I have seen and enjoyed your splendid issues. I enclose subscription. Permit me to congratulate you, and the trade is to be doubly congratulated, upon the advent of a journal so devoted to their interests.

We on the Pacific Coast will appreciate the space given us, and will hope to contribute to and enjoy your success.

Yours very truly,

J. B. PILKINGTON.

ALONG PACIFIC COAST

CALIFORNIA SECRETS.

Exposed by Prof. E. J. Wickson--Why California Fruits Excel--Deep, Rich, Loamy Soil, Long Growing Season, Dry, Transparent Air -- Fruit Growers Progressive.

PROF. E. J. WICKSON.

California soils are prevalently deep, rich and loamy; the rule is that the roots of trees and vines strike deeply-five, ten, yes, even at twenty to thirty feet below the surface well diggers have found them helping themselves to subterranean moisture. Thus the California fruit grower, who makes a good location, may buy the equivalent of ordinary Eastern farms, one above the other, and his trees and vines will strike roots through all of them. This is one of the reasons why deciduous fruit trees in California can grow thriftily and bear large fruit though not a drop of rain may fall during the half year of spring and summer, while at the East a few weeks of drouth may seriously distress them.

Another reason why California fruits are large is the length of the growing season. The high winter temperature makes February and March the months of bloom, then come the months which are warm enough almost everywhere, and September, October and part

of November, with temperatures still favorable for deciduous fruit ripening. Thus it appears that for these fruits California has a month or two advantage in the spring and a month or two again in the fall—at least three months advantage on the whole in length of the growing season as compared with average Eastern locations—a quarter of a year more growth for the fruit.

But there is involved a finer point still. There is in California an atmospheric quality which works together with light and heat for the development of fruit and the preparation of fruit products. The dryness of the air promotes the efficiency of sunlight; the energy of that light opens opportunity for the fullest employment of heat. In a moist summer climate there is a screen invisible to the eye, but nevertheless, to a degree, destructive of the efficiency of sunshine. It is to the perfect transparency of dry air that the sunlight of California owes a part of its efficiency; and the evidence thereof is the clearness and delicacy of the colors of California fruits.

Moist air deepens tints and tends toward russet blemishes; the dry air tends to brilliance and to refinement. Then, too, light and heat work together in fruit chemistry and promote the production of sugars, oils and essences whence come fruity flavors and nutritive qualities, and they continue their labor, in connection with dry air, in the preservation of fruit from decay while it is maturing and in retaining natural colors in dried fruit, so that California sun-dried fruit reaches the highest standard described in the trade as "evaporated fruit."

All these factors contribute to the distinctive excellence of California fruit, but all these would fail of results without the ever-present promotive and protective skill and devotion of the growers. California fruit growers, as a class, have no superiors among agricultural producers in the application of science, invention and experimental knowledge to the promotion of their business. They have practically revolutionized fruit growing all the way from soil to sale. They plant, prune, cultivate, irrigate, protect, pick, pack and sell fruits according to methods they have themselves devised.

All other fruit growing states and countries study their ways and are imitating them so far as adaptable to other conditions. Thus California fruit is the joint work of nature's favor and man's energy and insight. When it is understood that both these agencies are of the high grade which is claimed for them, any question as to the reason for the high quality and commercial position of California fruits is answered.

Beginning November 1, the rate on lemons from Southern California to points east of the Mississippi river will be \$1 a hundred instead of \$1.25.

NURSERY TRADE ON PACIFIC COAST.

SALEM, Ore., Oct. 12.—Salem Nursery Co.: "The sales for the past season with us have been slightly in advance of last year and we believe prospects for spring business are equally as good, as crops throughout the coast country have been generally good and prices in most sections above the average.

"Nursery stock, we think, will be sold out very closely this year all over the coast, and we believe it will be even scarcer next season, as the dry summer has affected seedling stock to some extent. We have had but little rain to speak of since the first of May until now within the last three days. Taking everything into consideration, we would say the nursery business on the Pacific coast, generally, is in a healthy condition at this time."

Almond Oil from Apricots—Consul-General Skinner, at Marseilles, in a recent report replies to a series of questions propounded by a California correspondent, regarding the commercial value of apricot kernels: "Both the sweet and bitter almond oil of commerce," he writes, "are usually obtained from apricot pits, which are much cheaper than the true sweet and bitter almonds, and yield a product approximately as valuable. In this part of France, where apricots are grown on a very large scale and manufactured into jelly and marmalade, the pits are carefully preserved and dried, and are usually taken by the manufacturers of oils and essences. Considerable quantities of these kernals are also imported."

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FRUIT AT MEDICINE HAT.

Canadian Pacific Land Commissioner Sends to Montreal Specimens of Crab Apples of Extra Size and Quality From Northern Alberta.

Mr. Doupe, assistant land commissioner of the Canadian Pacific railroad, has returned to Winnepeg, Manitoba, from a trip through Northern Alberta which occupied over one month. He gives glowing accounts of the settlement and development of the country.

At Medicine Hat Mr. Doupe received a small basket of Russian crab apples which had been grown in the garden of Mr. McKay, a resident of that town. These apples are of large size, and of beautiful color and excellent flavor. It is believed that apples can be cultivated in the Medicine Hat district, and the apples grown by Mr. McKay are certainly indisputable evidence in support of this belief. This is the first time that Mr. McKay's trees have borne fruit, and his experiment has resulted so successfully, other residents of the district will doubtless be encouraged to go in for fruit culture. Mr. Doupe has the apples given him at the land office. They are such a fine sample of the crab species that he intends sending them to Montreal.

DYE IN FRUIT SYRUPS.

There is a popular belief that the American people are great consumers of impure and adulterated foods. What is needed to convince the people of the truthfulness of this impression is the products of these food frauds themselves, says What to Eat. The display at the St. Louis Exposition, which includes the exhibits from the various state boards of health, shows the adulterations of foods and beverages, together with the samples of adulterants, the various tests that have been applied, and about two thousand brands of food products that have been found by the state government laboratories to be adulterated.

Minnesota and South Dakota have sent sheets of wool and silk five feet square, dyed with the artificial mineral coloring found in strawberry syrups, catsup, jellies, and port wines. It is claimed that it took only about eight ounces of this coloring matter to dye the cloth.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FRUIT.

VICTORIA, B. C., Oct. 10.—"The efforts of the local and Dominion inspectors are having the desired effect," said F. R. Stewart, of Stewart & Co., "and farmers are gaining the advantage of following their advice. There is a much better price for A1 fruit, and as long as this is produced there will be a demand for it. We have just shipped a car of island fruit to Winnipeg, which was of excellent quality. We had four cars to the same destination a short time ago, so that you will see that British Columbia fruit is growing in favor. At home here, local grown fruit is taking the place of the imported article, and is fully as good—better in some instances."

TWO BITES TO OREGON CHERRIES.

PORTLAND, ORE., Oct. 14.—J. B. Pilkington; "The outlook for the nurseryman in the Pacific Northwest is generally good. The digging and packing season is now on and will continue till stock begins to leaf out again, there being but little if any interruption during the winter. Stock is not quite up to the usual standard of growth owing to the unprecedented drouth during the past summer, but excepting pears, which are very short, average up well and sales are good.

"Cherries are again in good demand and supply is short; the famous saying, "Two bites to a cherry in Oregon" is substantiated in the Bing and Lambert varieties which are being largely planted. The planting of fine ornamentals attests to the prosperous condition of the country. Nut trees are being extensively planted, the English walnut leading but filberts and chestnuts are given due attention."

NOVA SCOTIA TRUST.

Annapolis Valley Fruit Estates Formed With Capital of \$350,000--Will Combine Thirty Farms of 3,000 Acres--To Grow Apples and Small Fruits.

A fruit growers' trust has been organized in Nova Scotia by Halifax capitalists, headed by Senator David Mackeen, says the Montreal Star. It is known as the Annapolis Valley Fruit Estates, Limited, with a capital of \$350,000. The company proposes to combine about thirty farms of over three thousand acres, in the Cornwallis Valley, which has long been famous in the English market as producing some of the finest apples in the province. The farms are all in a prosperous condition, with splendid houses and barns. In addition to apples, the company will cultivate small fruits extensively, as well as potatoes and other vegetables, and erect a canning and vinegar plant. There will also be built a barrel and box factory for the making of their fruit packages. Hog raising on a large scale will be another important branch of the company's work.

NEW FRUIT COMPANIES.

Standard Wine Co., Penn Yan, N. Y., \$100,000— Charles F. Hathaway, Bradley G. Hathaway, Norma I. Hathaway.

Florida east coast fruit growers have formed the Consolidated Fruit Company, capital stock \$100,000. President, W. M. Brown; secretary, T. V. Moore, both of Miami, Fla.

The Petri Fruit Co., Rochester, N. Y., has been incorporated. The company is capitalized at \$10,000 and the directors are Edward Albert Petri, Nellie G. Petri and Harry M. R. Glover.

The Conecuh Fruit and Nurseries Company, of Evergreen, Ala., has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$1,000. Incorporators, W. C. Crumpton, William Cunningham and E. A. Beaven.

Consolidated Raisin Company, San Francisco. Capital \$100,000. Directors, A. Gardenlaub, W. M. Griffin, Warren Gregory, Abe Rosenberg and D. J. Guggenheim.

Paso Real Fruit Co., Cincinnati, to grow fruit in Cuba. A. D. Kirby, Leon Schiff, Emit J. Veser, A. A. Veser, F. C. Jaeckh. Capital, \$150,000.

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Nurserymen Interested Send for Particulars.

Preparing American Fruits for the Table :

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Apples a la Marle-Pare large, firm apples and remove the core without dividing them. Fill the cavity with cream or custard. Cover each apple with a little short crust, with a sort of knot or bow at the top, and bake in a moderate oven. Serve with sifted sugar.

Meringue of Pears-Pare, core and halve a dozen pears and stew them in syrup until they are sufficiently tender to be pierced easily with a needle. Put them into a deep tart dish which they will almost fill, and boil the syrup quickly until it is so much reduced that when poured over the pears it will only half cover them. Whisk the whites of four eggs to a solid froth. Stir into them four tablespoonfuls of powdered and sifted sugar, and spread the mixture evenly and smoothly over the fruit; put it at once into a moderate oven and bake until the crust is lightly colored and crisp even to the inside.

Pickled Grapes-Put sound grapes picked from the stalks into a deep jar and cover with white wine vinegar. Tie them down with a bladder and keep in a cool place. They will be ready for use in a month.

Apple Cheese-Boil three quarts of sound cider until reduced to two quarts. Pare, core and slice juicy apples and put them in a stew pan with enough of the cider to cover them. As soon as they are tender, take them out with a perforated spoon and put in the cider a second quantity of sliced apples. Continue until the cider is absorbed. Then place the whole mixture in an earthenware vessel; let it stand for twelve hours; put it in a preserving pan and boil until it is of a rich brown color and of the consistency of porridge.

Prune Charlotte-Stew one and a h: 1' pounds of prunes, pit them and sweeten with one c p of sugar. Line a well buttered pudding dish with s.ic s of bread and butter. Pour in the prunes and flavor with vanilla. Cover with bread and butter and bake. When done turn it out, sift sugar over it and serve with cream.

Prune Pie-Line a pie pan with pastry and fill with pitted, stewed prunes. When baked cover with a meringue of the whites of three eggs sweetened with three heaping tablespoonfuls of powdered sugar. Return pie to oven and let it brown. The meringue may be replaced by whipped cream.

Prunes Will be Cheap-Producers and handlers of prunes are facing a great overproduction this year and a consequent fall in prices. The California and Oregon crop is estimated at 150,000,000 pounds and there is a "carry-over" from last year of 50,000,000 pounds. The crop in Bosnia, Servia and France is estimated at 400,000,000 pounds, so that the American producers cannot expect any export demand to relieve the situation.

Tomatoes Ten Inches Around - Daniel R Anderson, a member of the Indiana State Soldiers Home, LaFayette, Ind., has turned his attentions this year to the cultivation of tomatoes and has raised some that would take the prize at the Louisiana Purchase exposition. He has one vine that is ten feet long, and has trained it on the lattice work of a veranda eight feet high. Some of the tomatoes produced by this vine are ten inches in circumference.

Forty Fruits in One Cake-A fruit cake de. signed to make many mouths water has been placed on exhibition in the California section in the palace of agriculture at the St. Louis Fair. It is made of forty-one varieties of fruit produced in California. It measures more than four feet in circumference, stands nearly two feet high, and weighs eighty-five pounds. The mammoth production is a magnificent testimonial to the cake-maker's art. Among the more common fruits which it contains are cherries, figs, prunes, dates, peaches, pears and apples. The cake was made by Mrs. R. M. Bailey of the Sacramento valley.

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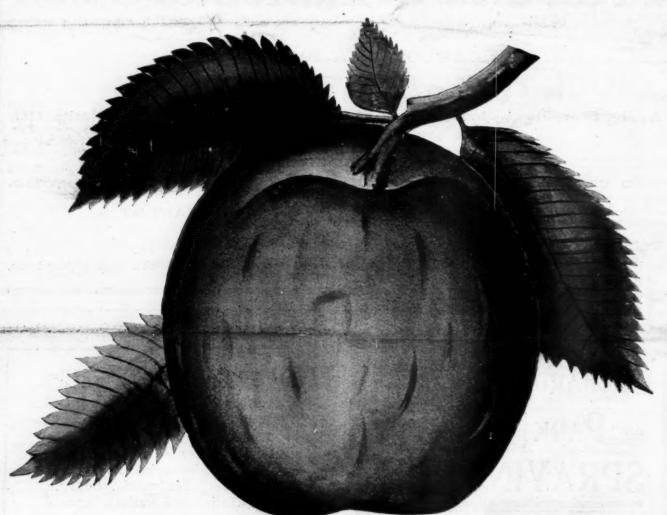
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